



THE PACESSETTER

Published by the City of Ypsilanti

Issue II, November 1985

Nouveau Logo

by Susan J. Dickinson

Since the first publication of THE PACESETTER, the editorial staff has received several inquiries regarding the significance of the newsletter logo.

THE PACESETTER was named to demonstrate the City's leadership role, "setting the pace" in the area. Therefore, some illustration of this movement was necessary to include in the design.

To understand its significance, one must first determine some of Ypsilanti's most meaningful and distinctive traits. The Cross Street Bridge and the Huron River are two of Ypsilanti's valuable resources.

Now...looking above at the obscure contemporary art form, the top half illustrates the Cross Street Bridge, connecting Ypsilanti's business districts. The lower section of the design represents the river, flowing left from beneath the Bridge in a "Y" form and ending upward in an arrowhead which captures the motion or "pace" of the City. The representation depicts the City moving forward, recognizing and accentuating its historic and progressive attributes.

City Mourns The Loss Of Loyal Employee

by Joyce Jordan

On September 17, 1985, City of Ypsilanti employee, Carrie L. Mattingly died at the age of 42 after a long but courageous battle with cancer.

Mrs. Mattingly came to Ypsilanti from Woodland Mills, Tennessee in 1953 and entered the fourth grade at Perry Elementary School. She graduated from Ypsilanti High School in 1961. Mrs. Mattingly also attended Cleary College for two years before accepting a job as a teller at the Ypsilanti Savings Bank (becoming the first black teller to be employed at the bank). She was employed at the bank for almost 14 years. Mrs. Mattingly also served as secretary for the Second Baptist church.

In 1966, she married Gordon Mattingly and they had four children, Marla, Lenae, Gordon Jr., and Tera.

The City of Ypsilanti hired her in 1980 as Office Assistant for the Recreation Department and she was later promoted to the position of Account Clerk in the Department of Public Works.

In her positions with the City, Mrs. Mattingly had a great deal of daily contact with City residents showing a special talent in assisting people. Her friendly, empathetic style left citizens with a positive feeling.

The Ypsilanti community will miss Mrs. Mattingly and the personal contributions she has made to the City. Though she is gone, she leaves behind not just a legacy of service, but also an example to all employees of warmth, kindness and the concern of the citizen at heart.



Ypsilanti City Government

by Matt Hennessee, City Manager

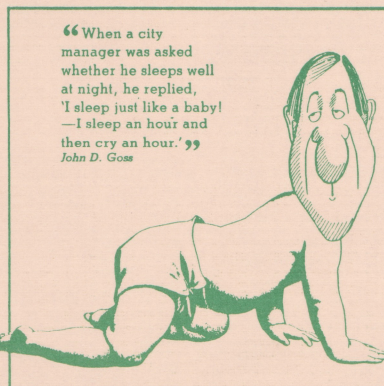
The purpose of THE PACESETTER is to provide information to the citizens of the City on a variety of topics of interest. There is from time to time, interest expressed in the City's form of government.

Ypsilanti is a home rule city and its Charter (basic city constitution), since 1947, has been governed by the Council-Manager form of government.

The government of the City of Ypsilanti is divided into two major branches. The Mayor and City Council constitute the LEGISLATIVE BRANCH and are involved in major policy making decisions. The City Manager and staff of the City act as the EXECUTIVE

BRANCH carrying out the policy dictates of City Council.

The City Manager, James W.M. (Matt) Hennessee is appointed by City Council



"When a city manager was asked whether he sleeps well at night, he replied, 'I sleep just like a baby! —I sleep an hour and then cry an hour.'"
John D. Goss

Reprinted with permission

and acts as the Chief Executive officer. The Council also appoints the City Clerk, Robert Slone, the City Controller Linda Brooks, and the City Attorney John Barr, who work with the City Manager to carry out the administrative affairs of the City.

Ypsilanti's Revised City Charter of 1975 divided the City into five wards. Each ward elects two council representatives and the Mayor is elected at large. Mayor Peter Murdock presides over Council meetings and makes appointments to boards and commissions.

Citizens have contact with the government through individual City Council members and also the City Manager's Office.

Compliments, complaints and suggestions are always welcome and should be directed to the City Manager's Office at 483-1100.

Street Maintenance Crew Ready For Winter's Snow And Ice

by Mike Ager

Have you noticed that when driving into the City of Ypsilanti after a heavy winter storm that the streets are clear? This parting of the waters (so to speak) is no surprise to most City residents. Ypsilanti's Winter Street Maintenance program has been recognized as one of the best in the County.

In clearing the 58 miles of city streets of snow and ice, eight members of the Department of Public Work's crew with specialized equipment and approximately 4,000 tons of salt are used for

snow and ice removal any time during the day or night.

A strong city policy on snow and ice control keeps traffic moving. For light snows of less than four inches ice salt is a primary weapon. However, salt works slowly when the temperature falls below 19 degrees. Therefore, during heavy snowfalls over four inches, snowplows with blades set one inch above the road's surface are used to protect the roadway for safety.

First priority for snow and ice control

goes to Ypsilanti's 25 miles of state trunklines and major streets cleared during the night. Thirty-three miles of neighborhood streets are divided into five districts and generally cleared during the day. These districts are rotated for priority each snow fall. Plowing neighborhoods during the day provides drivers with maximum visibility for parked cars and pedestrians. Last to be cleared are the dead end streets. At any time while clearing the neighborhood streets, it is important to know that snowplows may return to the state trunklines and major streets to keep these streets open for maximum safety.

If the snowfall becomes excessively dangerous the City Manager may declare a weather emergency. Announcements over the local radio stations to this effect would cause a prohibition of parking on primary snow routes. Signs mark these streets throughout the City. Vehicles that are parked on these streets would be towed so snow can be effectively removed. Residents should cooperate with this restriction during emergency weather conditions.

For sidewalks in front of public facilities and municipal parking lots, a second crew insures that these areas are safe early every morning. During severe weather, however, this crew will first assist in the maintenance of streets.

Federal Funds Approved For Ypsilanti Housing Commission

by Editorial Staff

Christmas came early for Ypsilanti's Housing Commission with recent notification from Senator Carl Levin's Office that \$1.25 million had been allocated toward continued renovation. Mr. Leonard Bryant, the Executive Director of the Ypsilanti Public Housing Commission has already appointed a new finance manager, Mr. Bavindes Yalamanchi, to administer these funds.

Image has been a major concern of Bryant's during his first year's tenure with the City. "The improved appearance of the First Court/Armstrong sites, for example, should have a positive impact on the public's perception of public housing." These funds have been allocated from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Regional Housing Office.

The Director has announced that \$832,000 has been allocated to improve the exterior of the administrative offices and rehabilitation of 60 occupied units at the First Court/Armstrong site, \$35,000 has been provided for initial rehabilitation of the Grove Street site, and \$380,000 will be used to complete the landscaping and remaining occupied units for the Michigan Avenue site.

The success of these improvements will be closely tied to efforts of the Neighborhood Watch Program and activities of the Housing Commission's Citizens Advisory Council.

Revitalization Of Power Plant

by Suzanne Remien Fejes

Negotiations between Peninsular Paper Company, a local company, and the City of Ypsilanti have culminated in an agreement to donate its dam and seven acres of land along the Huron River off LeForge Road to the City. The City has agreed, in return, to rehabilitate the hydrostation and dam structure, selling generated electricity to Detroit Edison.

The City now has an option to purchase the dam and property, and has applied to the Federal Energy Regulation Commission for licensing to operate the hydropower station. Revenue generated will be used to finance the rehabilitation of the dam and the station, a project exceeding \$1 million in cost.

Plans for the development of the vacant seven acres include a recreation park, parking, pathways, a pavillion and lighting, and will be financed by a \$100,000 state grant approved for these improvements.

Once licensing is approved, the City will proceed with the project financing, which will be in the form of revenue bonds to be paid back through the sale of the electricity. At this time it is anticipated that City funds will not be needed to finance the acquisition, development, nor the operation of the project.

Logo Design Contest

The City of Ypsilanti is looking for a new logo to convey the Spirit of Ypsilanti.

Entries will be accepted at The City Manager's Office through February 15, 1986.

The winning artist will be awarded a gift of \$100.00.

For further information contact The City Manager's Office at 483-1100 ext. 21.

City To Computerize

by Linda Brooks

A Prime computer was recently approved for purchase by the Ypsilanti City Council to replace a machine purchased used in 1975.

With seven terminals and four printers, the new system has the capability of accounting and payroll functions, investment management, accounts receivable monitoring, purchase order preparation, check reconciliation, and budget preparation in the Controller's Office.

Administration Anticipates Greater Efficiency

The new computer will accommodate a voter's registration system and boards and commission registrar in the Clerk's Office, an assessment/appraisal system and tax billing/collection system for the Assessor/Treasurer's Office. It will also have a leave accrual system for the Personnel Office, a fixed asset/inventory control system for the City Manager's Office and the Department of Public Works. The system will have a grant management system for the Economic Development Department and will allow all of the City departments to share the same data base and communicate with one another.

The City will also purchase ten mini-computers, eight printers, and one color plotter for graphic illustrations. This equipment has the capability to reduce employee's time in the budget preparation, budget clarification, typing letters and report preparation.

Specialized software packages will be purchased at a later date for the Fire and Police Departments' individual requirements.

The City anticipates equipment will be installed in November and December with program installation being done throughout 1986. All of the equipment, software, and related start-up costs will be financed with Federal Revenue Sharing Funds from the distributions of 1983-86 fiscal years which total \$335,000.



City Council Petitions Due

Partisan nominating petitions for anyone interested in running for City Council in the February 17 primary election are available at the City Clerk's Office.

Petitions must be signed by no less than 25 and no more than 50 registered electors residing in the ward from which a candidate seeks election.

The deadline for filing petitions with the City Clerk's Office is 4 P.M., December 30.

For more information, call the City Clerk's Office at 483-1100.

City Councilmembers

	(Ward)
Mayor Peter J. Murdock	485-7799
Mayor Pro-Tem Eula M. Tate	- 1 - 485-3865
Albert A. Robinson	- 1 - 482-5861
Clyde K. King	- 2 - 483-3104
Michael W. Homel	- 2 - 483-2499
Kevin McCormick	- 3 - 484-0617
Eric B. Smith	- 3 - 483-8633
John Van Bolt	- 4 - 483-6972
Beverly A. Fish	- 4 - 484-1897
Greg Dodd	- 5 - 482-6371
Jerold W. Bubenhofer	- 5 - 485-4723

Community Profile

by Douglas Fouty

Dorothy Hill lives life aggressively and works with people to help them love life too. A 40 year city resident, her work and social activities reflect her love of life.

Currently, a Supervisor and Field Representative for the Senior Aide Program Community Social Services she also finds time for being a volunteer trouble shooter for the Department of Social Services, a parent aide, is President of the Social 10 Club, Financial Secretary for the Association of Women's Club of Ypsilanti, Housing Rehabilitation Board member for the City of Ypsilanti, and is a founding member of the Ypsilanti Resource Center, along with many church activities.

In her spare time, Hill designs her own clothes, grows plants, reads, particularly her Bible, and travels with her husband.

As with all volunteers the family support is strong. Hill's husband, Eddie, does those little things to show support such as not complaining about late meals, have the garage door open and the lights on after a late meeting or making sure the youngster Dorothy just met has a new pair of shoes.

Her strong interest in family life has lead her to being a parent aide to young families since 1979. She is now serving her sixth young family, each having Hill for one year.

In summary, Mrs. Hill gives to each person she meets that something extra to make the difference.

Holiday Office Hours

City Hall and the Ypsilanti Housing Commission Office will be closed for the Christmas holidays at 12:30 P.M. December 20 until 8:00 A.M. January 2.

The City Clerk's Office will be open 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. December 30 to accept nominating petitions.

Parkridge Community Center and the Senior Citizens Center will be closed December 23, 24, 25, 30, 31 and January 1.

Tax bills may be paid by mail or at the National Bank of Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Savings Bank offices or the City Hall drop box on S. Huron Street.

The following phone numbers may be called in case of emergency:
 482-3311 - Fire Department
 483-9510 - Police Department
 482-7894 - Rubish Pick-up
 484-4600 - Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority (Water and Sewer)

Christmas Program Needs Support

by Thadina Sanders

Each year, at this time, the Ypsilanti Housing Commission takes on an additional role - that of Santa Claus.

Many citizens think that the role of the Ypsilanti Public Housing Commission is that of landlord for low income families, but fortunately that has not been its sole mission.

The Commission initiates and sponsors many social service programs throughout the year such as: educational programs, scholarship programs, summer field trips, housekeeping programs and nutrition programs, to name just a few. The Commission also coordinates transportation and parties hosted by local agencies such as the Police Department, Eastern Michigan University and the American Cancer Society.

The most significant and rewarding of these activities is the Christmas Program. The Commission solicits money, toys, gifts and food from local agencies and community members.

Last year the Commission was able to take the youth of Public Housing to a pizza parlor for a visit with Santa, and with the assistance of other groups, provided each child with three gifts.

Solicitation began in October. All donations are tax deductible. For more information or to make a donation toward this year's activities, call 482-4300.

A University On The Move

by Dr. John W. Porter

Eastern Michigan University is beginning the second half of its most successful "decade of advancement." The University has now increased its enrollment to over 20,000 students for the first time and have moved ahead of Western Michigan University in total head count making EMU the fourth largest institution in the state.

The cooperative effort between the University, the City of Ypsilanti, and Ypsilanti Township to secure funding for the Corporate Training Center to be built in the Huron Center, has been a

The "Little Kids Only" School

by Dr. James Hawkins

The new Perry Child Development Center (CDC) will be ready for occupancy in September, 1986. Located on Ypsilanti's south side, the new CDC will house an Ypsilanti Area District-wide educational program, specifically tailored for 4-6 year olds. The basic philosophy behind the program is high quality pre-school intervention which can promote healthy child development and make a positive impact on the future lives of its participants.

The existing school will be partially demolished, retaining only the portion of the building which was added in 1956. The 1956 addition will be renovated and new construction will complete the building for a total \$4.3 million estimated project cost. The remaining structure, existing from the early 1900's, was targeted for demolition because it had

reached a state of disrepair and was functionally inappropriate for the educational program.

Emphasizing active learning, problem solving and interaction with adults and children are the major emphasis of the program. Bringing all of the children from the Ypsilanti District onto one site will provide the opportunity to create innovative educational facilities that all of the children can share. While the Perry CDC is designed particularly for the needs of pre-school and kindergarten students, it also accounts for the benefit of the community and integrity of the existing site.



Main Street Loan Program To Begin

The National Bank of Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Savings Bank have demonstrated their support to the revitalization efforts continuing in the downtown by each pledging \$100,000 toward a low interest loan pool for interior and exterior rehabilitation. For more information call the Main Street Office at 483-6680.

"It's Snowtime"

by Editorial Staff

It's a cold, wintery night. The only thing on your mind is getting home to a warm house. You rush to the car, insert the key in the ignition, nothing happens. You turn the key again, the engine makes a feeble noise.

"It's a familiar site for many motorists and it can be avoided, as so many other annoying winter car problems." Said Ypsilanti Police Chief Wm. Robert Huff.

He lists several car safety tips to prepare your car for the winter driving season ahead.

- The amount of time since the last engine tune-up. If it has been over 15,000 miles or one year, you may need a tune-up to get the engine started on cold mornings.

- Windshield washer fluid levels.
- Windshield wiper blades. Summer sun and winter cold can break down the rubber and leave blades hard and brittle.
- Tires, change over to snow tires if possible; check air pressure.
- Battery voltage level and water level.
- Anti-freeze level and coolant zone.
- Heater hose and blower motor.

"Remember" advises the Police Chief, "it will take a vehicle one and one-half to twice the distance to stop at a given speed on snow, than on dry pavement. On ice, it will take two to four times longer distance to stop, so always allow yourself more time to stop in the winter."